



SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

R.C.F. SMITH, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., F.R.I.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital.

M.B.H. CHURCHILL, M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



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SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1943.

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VICE-CHAIRMAN :

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" Mrs. E.W. Thompson J.P

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CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE :

Alderman Wm. Emmerson J.P.,

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Council Offices,
1. The Esplanade,
Sunderland.

OFFICIALS

Medical Officer of Health : R.C.F. Smith, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector : M.B.H. Churchill, M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector : J.T. Cuthbertson.

Clerk to Health Department : Miss C.V. Cory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent : Dr. R.C.F. Smith.

Matron : Miss I.C. Thompson.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hereby present my report for the year 1943, a period somewhat similar to the preceding war years of increased stabiliz ation of defensive measures upon the public in their Civil Defence duties.

As in previous reports, during the War, for reasons of economy and for the prevention of dissemination of information likely to be useful to the enemy, only a skeleton outline of urgent and essential matter appretaining to Public Health will be mentioned.

The health of the district continues to be satisfactory. In comparison with the past year there was a decrease of one death, although the Death Rate is slightly higher than the average. In view, however, of the fact that many young and vigorous inhabitants are away on active service with a resulting relative increase in an older and less fit community, it gives no cause for complaint.

Regarding Infectious Diseases there was an increa se over previous years - fortunately however with only five deaths. This increase was no less than ⁵⁸⁷~~449~~ including ⁴³³~~574~~ cases of measles. All the infectious disease notified are spread by droplet spray, speaking, coughing, etc., and it must be realised that the black-out and hence impairment of ventilation together with a decrease of food fats, is bound to have had a most profound influence in this increasing the incidence of infection.

We must consider ourselves fortunate in having mainly mild cases of Diphtheria. This happy state is attributed to the fact, that up to the 31st December 1943, 4,054 children had been immunised against the disease. Scarlet Fever continued to be a mild disease ; in fact, these patients had only a rash to distinguish them from an ordinary Tonsilitis.

The three chief captions of death ; viz. Heart Disease, Cancer and intracranial vascular diseases showed a decrease from the previous year. Cancer showed a decrease of 3, Heart Disease decreased by 17.

Under the Emergency Powers Regulations, all our Posts and Depots have increased their part-time personnel. The vast majority deserve our highest praise as they have diligently and conscientiously performed their allotted tasks.

During the year Dr. J. Gillan who acted as M.O. to the First Aid Post for four years retired. Dr. Bain Alderson was appointed in his stead.

REGINALD C.F. SMITH,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1944.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	8,286 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid-1943	Not to be published.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to rate book	6,030
Rateable Value	£97,298
Sum represented by penny rate	£405

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATE

The nett number of Births in the District was 415.

The sex and legitimacy classification is shewn thus :-

	Male.	Female.	Total.
LIVE (Legitimate	200.	186.	386.
BIRTHS ' Illegitimate	21.	8.	29.

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 19.1 this compares with a Birth Rate of 16.5 per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTHS.

During 1943 there were 9 still births in the District.

	Male.	Female.
STILL (Legitimate	8.	0.
BIRTHS (Illegitimate	0.	1.

The Still Birth Rate of the population is 0.4 per thousand. The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 0.51

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE.

During 1943 there were 190 deaths registered as having occurred within the District, namely 112 males and 78 females.

The number of deaths of residents in the District, which occurred outside the District was 51 males and 29 females. The total number of deaths when corrected for the inward and outward transfers, is 163 males and 134 females. The death-rate (corrected for outward and inward transfers) and including deaths from all causes and at all ages, was 13.6 per thousand of the estimated population.

The Death Rate for England and Wales is 12.1

COMPARABILITY FACTOR : The variety and magnitude of local population

movements and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths, have together combined to frustrate the attempt to secure comparability between local Death Rates by the use of an Areal Comparability Factor, and the preparation and issue of such factors are being suspended by the Registrar General, under present conditions . Therefore, the Death Rate of 13.6 is merely the Crude Death Rate.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Thirty-two children died during 1943 before attaining the age of one year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	17.	13.	30.
Illegitimate	2.	Nil.	2.

The Death Rate of Infants under one year, is shewn according to the total number of live births, and legitimacy :-

Death Rate for all infants per thousand live births 77.1

The infantile mortality rate of 77.1 is above the average. Of the 32 infantile deaths, 10 died outside the District, 17 were due to Premature Birth and Birth Injuries, and the remainder from Bronchitis, Enteritis and Pneumonia. War-time always has an adverse effect on Infant Deaths, e.g. Mother going out to work for long hours before and after the birth ; shortage of certain food stuffs and the general strain of war.

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE SUNDERLAND RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1943.

The causes of all deaths in the District during 1943 is shewn in the following table :-

CAUSE OF DEATH.	MALE.	FEMALE.	TOTAL.
Whooping Cough	0.	1.	1.
Measles	0.	3.	3.
Diphtheria	1.	1.	2.
Influenza	7.	3.	10.
Appendicitis	1.	0.	1.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	11.	6.	17.
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1.	2.	3.
Syphilis	2.	0.	2.
Intra-cran Vasc. Lesions	13.	14.	27.
Cancer	23.	17.	40.
Diabetes	0.	3.	3.
Heart Disease	19.	22.	41.
Other Circulatory Diseases	8.	6.	14.
Bronchitis	14.	7.	21.
Pneumonia (all forms)	12.	4.	16.
Other Respiratory Diseases	2.	2.	4.
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0.	2.	2.
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2.	2.	4.
Other Digestive Diseases	3.	3.	6.
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3.	5.	8.
Premature Birth etc.	4.	3.	7.
Suicide	1.	0.	1.
Other Violence	8.	3.	11.
Road Traffic Accidents	0.	1.	1.
Other Causes	22.	20.	42.
Congenital Malformations - Birth Injury	6.	4.	10.
	163.	134.	297.

The above table compared with the table of last year, shows a

decrease of deaths from Heart Disease, Premature Births and Cancer. On the other hand there is a slight increase in the number of deaths from Influenza, Pneumonia and Bronchitis.

HOSPITAL.

During the past year 159 cases of Infectious Disease have been admitted to the Sunderland Rural District Council Isolation Hospital, as follows :-

Disease.	Patients in Hospital on 31st Dec. 1942.	Patients admitted during 1943.	Patients in the Hospital on 31st Dec. 1943.
Scarlet Fever	6.	49.	6.
Diphtheria	1.	98.	9.
Measles	1.	3.	-
Observation	1.	2.	-
Erysipelas	-	2.	-
Pneumonia	-	1.	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	4.	-

Seventy-six cases were admitted to the Tuberculosis Pavilion, at the following ages :-

15 years and under	25 years	37.
25 " " "	45 "	31.
45 " " "	65 "	8.

Seventeen deaths occurred from Tuberculosis.

There have been 6 cases admitted to the Rural District Isolation Hospital from Usworth Aerodrome and 3 from Seaham.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

To serve the area we have two vehicles, an Armstrong Siddley and a new Austin to replace the old Austin. Unfortunately owing to the war we could not get a proper chassis and we had to rely on a lorry type. Complaints of the poor springing of the Ambulance have been numerous. Negotiations are in progress for another vehicle.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year 1943, 985 cases of infectious disease, including all forms of Tuberculosis, were notified, as compared with 418 for the previous year and 781 for 1941.

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases of this disease notified was 57, this figure shows an increase from that of last year, which was 49. The disease was of a mild type and caused no anxiety.

DIPHTHERIA.

The figure for notifications for this disease 98, is 8 higher than last year. Two deaths occurred from this disease all among those patients who had not been immunised.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme has still further advanced. Pre-paid post-cards were issued to all the Health Visitors, and these were given out during visits or at Welfare Centres. A declaration of consent to have a child immunised was on the post-card, which after completion was posted to the Health Office, then arrangements were made for the child to be immunised by his or her own Doctor, in this way, a large number of children under 5 years of age were immunised.

MEASLES.

574 cases of this disease were notified, which is an increase of 433 over the previous year. Most of the cases were of a mild type. Measles is a disease which shows a periodic increase - cycles every 3 or 5 years. Very few people escape infection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	1	5	5	1	-	1	-
5	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-
10	-	1	3	4	-	-	-	-
15	2	8	4	1	-	1	-	-
20	6	5	-	2	1	2	-	1
25	7	2	2	3	2	2	-	-
35	5	4	-	2	3	1	-	1
45	6	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
55	4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 & up	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	33.	25.	16.	20.	11.	6.	1.	2.

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

No action under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which relates to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis, has been taken.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological Examinations of sputa and throat swabs from general practitioners are undertaken by the University of Durham at King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by arrangement with the County Council.

Bacteriological Examinations for the Year 1943 :-

FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Positive ----- 42.
Negative ----- 116.

FOR DIPHTHERIA.

Positive ----- 79.
Negative ----- 114.

The number of swabs taken at the R.D. Hospital during the past year was 277, these are sent to the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, for examination.

Throat Swabs	249.	Virulence Test	6.	C.S. Fluid	3.
Nasal Swabs	5.	Blood Tests	3.	Vincent's Angina	1.
Urine	4.	Faeces	1.	Pleural Fluid	1.
Cough Culture	4.				

DISINFECTION.

Disinfection of premises has been carried out by your Staff on the removal of all cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, and on the termination of the period of isolation, if the patient has been nursed at home.

The bedding etc. of the patient is disinfected in the "Thresh" Steam Disinfector at the Hospital. Disinfections are also carried out at houses where the death or removal of a person suffering from Tuberculosis has occurred.

WATER SUPPLIES.

As before, the district is supplied by the Sunderland & South Shields Water Board. Bacteriological Examinations are carried out by the owners. This examination is necessary in case any water-borne disease is brought into the district by troops and evacuees.

AT EAST, MIDDLE AND WEST HERRINGTON - Many of the houses are supplied by the Lambton, Hetton and Joicey Colliery Company from their pumping station situated in Silksworth Lane, this supply has been satisfactory.

AT OFFERTON - The supply to this Village is from a Well situated in a field to the north-west of the Village. The water is lifted from the Well by a pump which is driven by a Windmill and the water is stored in iron storage tanks situated near Offerton Hall. From thence it is led to the various houses in the District. The supply has been satisfactory.

AT COXGREEN - The only source of water supply to this Village is from a Spring known as The Alice Well which is situated on the Riverside Road to the west of the Village.

SCABIES.

In 1942, in order to combat an increase of this skin disease, it was necessary to take vigorous action. Posters were exhibited in the Districts affected and local Doctors sent the infected persons to the A.R.P. Depots for treatment. In all, during 1943, 85 persons were treated and cured.

It was not found necessary to institute bathing at the Posts or yet to threaten defaulters with legal action. Towards the end of the year, the disease was almost extinct.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE YEAR 1943
TOGETHER WITH THE AGES AT WHICH DISEASE OCCURRED AND THE INCIDENCE IN EACH OF THE
RESPECTIVE PARISHES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.											TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH PARISH.								
	At all ages.	Under 1 year											FORD	Herrington E. & M. West.	Hylton.	Offer-Ton	Ryhope	Silks-worth	Tunstall	Total cases removed to R.D. Hospital.
			1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15-20	20-35	35 -45	45-65								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	98			3	6	5	27	18	20	18	1	3	2	1	14	149	4	25	95	
Erysipelas	11	2								2	2	2		4		2		3	1	
Scarlet Fever	57		3	4	5	7	23	10	2	3		6	1	4	11	32		3	45	
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	4	1					2	1							1	2		1	4	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	6														2	1	3		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	58			1	1		1	1	10	20	9	8	1	1	6	26	3	13		
Other forms of Tuberculosis	36			3	3	4	4	7	5	7	2	9		1		10	4	12		
Pneumonia	55	3	5	5		4	7		1	3	6	12	3	13		13	5	9	1	
Whooping Cough	91	10	6	15	21	11	28					9	7		2	36	14	25		
Measles	574	34	60	89	82	99	201	7	2			79	8	105		256	30	94	2	
Puerperal Pyrexia	5								1	4						3		2		
Totals.	995	56	74	120	118	130	293	44	41	57	20	128	22	6	155	431	61	190	148	

BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1943.
PROVISIONAL FIGURES BASED ON WEEKLY AND QUARTERLY RETURNS.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Es. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.
X Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :-				
Live Births	16.5 +	18.6	19.4	15.8
Still "	0.51 +	0.63	0.61	0.45
DEATHS :-				
ALL CAUSES	12.1 +	14.2	12.7	15.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Diphtheria	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.02
Influenza	0.37	0.36	0.37	0.27
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :-				
Deaths under 1 year of age	49 /	58	46	58
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.3	7.9	4.4	10.4
X A dash (-) signifies that there were no deaths				
+ These rates are those published in the Quarterly Return				
/ Per 1,000 related births.				
+ Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :-				
NOTIFICATIONS :-				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.08	0.10	0.06	0.09
Scarlet Fever	3.01	3.29	3.54	3.80
Whooping Cough	2.54	2.82	2.25	2.68
Diphtheria	0.88	1.12	0.77	0.74
Erysipelas	0.31	0.35	0.27	0.42
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	9.88	9.23	9.77	9.17
Pneumonia	1.34	1.62	1.16	1.27
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :-				
(a) Notifications :-				
Puerperal Fever	11.68	15.11	9.26	3.05
Puerperal Pyrexia				15.23
(b) Maternal Mortality - England and Wales :-				
No. 140 Abortion With Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion Without Sepsis	No., 147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142-6 148-50 Other	
0.34	0.11	0.39	1.45	

9.

Abortion : Mortality per million women aged 15-45
- England and Wales :-

No. 140 with Sepsis	No. 141 Without Sepsis
25.	8.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.
-----PUBLIC CLEANSING - COLLECTION AND DEPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.
-----REFUSE COLLECTION

One of the most outstanding features of the year 1943 in so far as refuse collection for the residents of Sunderland Rural District is concerned, was the comparatively snow-free periods during the months January to April and October to December.

The severe snowfalls of the past three years had, at some periods, completely held up the work, and it is only by remembering such occasions that one really appreciates a winter which has not seriously interfered and dislocated essential public services.

This, more than^{any} other, was responsible for the so few complaints received during the year in respect to the non-collection of refuse.

In the Parishes of Ryhope, Silksworth and Tunstall a collection is made every four days, whilst in the Parish of Hylton a twice weekly collection is maintained. The Parishes of East and Middle Herrington, West Herrington, Offerton and Coxgreen and Ford are served by a weekly collection of refuse.

Five Karrier Bantam refuse vehicles were constantly employed in carrying out the work.

The refuse collection staff consists of 5 drivers and 12 loaders.

During the year 494,856 dust-bins, holding 13,500 tons of refuse were dealt with ; this represents a weekly collection and disposal of about 248 tons.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

The bulk of the refuse (about 75%) is disposed of at the Cherry-knowle Tip by the system of "Controlled Tipping". This tip is exceedingly large and, notwithstanding the fact that it is filling up fairly quickly, if the 100 per cent co-operation of the Farmer is forthcoming, it should satisfy our needs for at least another three or four years.

10,100 tons of refuse were dealt with on this tip on controlled lines, the surface and sides being covered with soil secured on the Site. Such was the progress made, that it was found necessary to further pipe the natural day-burn running through the centre of the tip, this was done for a distance of 260 yards at a cost of £140

The remainder of the refuse collected in the District is disposed of by a modified form of control or led on to fields at the request of local farmers or market gardeners.

SALVAGE

The recovery of all salvable materials suitable for the war effort was continued during the year with the dual purpose of feeding the "Munition front " and at the same time contribute as much as possible to the general rate fund of the District.

In spite of the regular collection of salvage throughout the area, it will be seen that both the quantity of materials and the amounts from the sales are below that of the year 1942, this is undoubtedly due to the "falling off" of waste paper, which is the most potent source of revenue.

So many competitions, drives and other special efforts have been made during the past three years, that the district is almost entirely combed of its surplus stocks, it is therefore not surprising to learn of the reduction in paper collections week by week, which must consist only of current waste.

The total amount received from the sale of salvage during 1943 was £1,105 : 6 : 7½ as shown herewith :-

MATERIAL SOLD.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£.	S.	D.
Waste Paper	75.	6.	1.	492	: 7	: 7
Light Scrap	5.	17.	1.	10	: 18	: 10
Heavy Scrap	29.	9.	0.	85	: 9	: 7½
Crushed Tins	77.	3.	1.	145	: 4	: 11
Textiles	14.	3.	1.	125	: 0	: 9
"Cullet"	6.	17.	1.	8	: 15	: 10½
Bottles & Jars	74.	8.	0.	173	: 12	: 10½
Kitchen waste	16.	12.	0.	20	: 14	: 11½
Rubber	4.	4.	2.	12	: 13	: 6
Bones	3.	11.	0.	16	: 18	: 3½
Aluminium			2.	1	: 11	: 7½
Copper		1.	1.	2	: 7	: 3
Brass		4.	2.	5	: 7	: 9
Lead		6.	2.	3	: 16	: 9½
Pewter			6 lbs.		6	: 0
	308.	4.	2.	1,105	: 6	: 7½

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The appended summary "Table A" sets out the number and nature of inspections made as to nuisances and sanitary defects, contraventions of Bye-laws etc. during the year, together with the number of notices served to remedy such defects etc.

It will be seen from the summary that the bulk of the notices served have been of an informal character and include letters and verbal intimations on interview.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year 1943, 203 complaints were received and attended to relating to matters briefly summarised as follows :-

Verminous and dirty premises	9.
Choked drains	31.
Water Supply (defective fittings etc)	4.
Defective drains	17.
Defective W.C. Privies etc.	7.
Defective dust-bins	45.
General Housing Defects	58.
Overcrowding	6.
Rat Infestations	2.
Offensive smells	5.
Requests to remove refuse	8.
Miscellaneous Nuisances and requests	11.

203.
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TABLE A. SUMMARY - SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT
 ----- INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES SERVED 1943.

	No. of Inspections during year.	No. of Defects of contraventions of Bye-laws	No. of Informal Notices Served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	No. of Statutory Notices Served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	Legal Proceedings.
HOUSING							
Structural Defects)		141	141	104			
Defective Food-store	384	1	1	1			
Dampness)		14	14	14			
Overcrowding	15	6	6				
NUISANCES							
Dirty or verminous Premises	14	9	9	9			
Choked Drains	206	206	206	204	2	2	
Various	31	18	18	18			
WATER SUPPLY							
Insufficient (Defective Fittings) etc.	26	14	14	14			
Unsatisfactory	7	2	2				
DRAINAGE							
Insufficient	41	17	17	17			
Defective	145	112	112	110			
New drains (testing etc)	243						
SANITARY CONVENIENCES							
Insufficient	35	18	18	18			
Insanitary Ash-pits and Dustbins	121	85	85	85			
Shops and Stores (including Canteens)	187	7	7	7			
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milk-shops	164	14	14	14			
Slaughter-houses	543	2	2	2			
Offensive Trades	83	6	6	6			
Workshops and Workplaces	26	3	3	2			
Offensive accumulations	54	10	10	10			
Totals	2,325	685	685	635	2	2	

DRAINAGE.

A letter of complaint was received during the year to the effect that two cottages at South Farrington Farm were without any means of drainage whatsoever. Upon investigations, it was ascertained that the complaint was a true fact.

An intimation letter was sent forthwith to the land agent, with the result that some 110 yards of drain, two inspection chambers and two gullies were provided; in addition, I was able to persuade the Agent to have the water supply carried to each cottage, with the provision of stand pipes.

The willing co-operation of the same Land Agent made it possible for vast improvements to be made in respect to the drainage of North Moor Farm. Arising out of a nuisance caused by the overflow from a cesspool finding its way on to a public road. An investigation was made and it was found that the whole of the drainage from the farm premises, including the house and cottages attached thereto. and the Military Camp adjoining, was delivered into an old brick constructed cesspool situated in the farm yard. The overflow from the cesspool being allowed to find its way into a nearby field and percolate according to the natural fall of the land.

Arrangements were made with the "Borough" for the connection of the drains to their sewer, which passes near the farm, thus dispensing entirely with the old fashioned unhygienic cesspool. At the same time, the opportunity was taken to completely re-arrange and modernise the whole drainage system which includes the provision of 200 yards of new drain, four inspection chambers and seven gullies. This will entirely eliminate the possibility of any further nuisances in respect to the drainage of these premises.

New N.F.S. Stations were constructed and completed during the year at Castletown, Ryhope and Silksworth. For the purpose of arranging the system of drainage for these premises and the testing of each individual length of drain, it was necessary to make many visits.

At Forsters Forge, South Hylton, a new canteen was constructed, this involved a good deal of work in connection with the arrangement of the drains and the testing of the same. Approximately 180 yards of new drain, 9 new inspection chambers, 11 new gullies and 4 new W.C. basins were provided.

All drains are tested by means of the water test before being passed.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Routine inspections are made during the year to all Public Conveniences in the District, with a view to ascertaining nuisances which may arise from time to time. These conveniences are thoroughly washed, cleansed and disinfected every day (including Sundays) by workmen on the Staff of the Health Department.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year only 4 complaints were received of Bug infested Houses. Three of these were in respect of Council Houses and the remaining one was a private house.

Many tenants are not keen to come and report as to the presence of bugs in their house until the infestation has become so severe, that they are almost driven to the point of reporting. So far as this department is concerned, both owners and occupiers are encouraged to seek advice and assistance from the department. They themselves are made responsible for the stripping of wall-papers, removal of skirtings and picture rails etc. this being followed by spraying with a reliable insecticide by a Health Department Representative. During the year Zaldecide was used for spraying and found to be most effective.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The inspection of the usual commodities of food intended for human consumption has been carried out during the year involving a great deal of time spent upon the work.

The inspection of all meat, both home killed and imported, was done at Ryhope Slaughter-house and Allocation Centre, for the Seaham Urban as well as for our own district.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year 164 visits were made to cowsheds, dairies, Milkshops, with a view to ensuring that milk was produced, stored and delivered to the public in a clean condition and free from all pathogenic organisms.

Milk is an article of food essential to all members of the community but none more so than young children and invalids; therefore too much care and attention cannot be taken to safeguard the production of such supplies.

It is well known that the production of "clean milk" is a comparatively easy task provided that such is the initial aim of the Producer and I am of the opinion that the principle reason for the lack of "clean" milk is because some farmers relegate milk production to the rank of a "side line" in their work and in consequence do not exercise the necessary supervision over their milk producing staff.

It is always necessary to have the various milk registers checked and the necessary alterations made as and when required. At the end of the year the following were shown to be on our registers

Dairy Farms and Cowkeepers	27.
Dairies and Milkshops	41.
Milk Purveyors who sell milk in sealed and stoppered bottles only	19.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Samples of milk were taken during the year and the following shows the number of samples taken and the examinations carried out :-

No. of samples taken	39.
No. of samples examined for Coliform Bacilli	39.
No. of samples to which Methylene Blue Test was applied	39.

The results of examinations of milk produced in and outside the District are as follows :-

	SATISFACTORY -----	NOT SATISFACTORY -----	TOTAL -----
Methylene Blue Test	33.	6.	39.
Coliform Test	27.	12.	39.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

A considerable amount of time has been devoted during the year to the work at the Government Slaughter-house, Ryhope.

It is of the utmost importance that, especially during war-time, as much meat as possible should be available to the Public, but it is more important still that such meat should be entirely free from disease or other unsound condition, before allowing it to be passed for human consumption. The work of meat inspection inevitably entails the working of long hours, invariably at week-ends and Bank Holidays.

All animals slaughtered are inspected before being exposed for sale and no carcase or organs allowed to leave the premises without examination. The whole of this work is carried out by myself.

Although a perusal of Tables 1 and 2 indicates that a fair amount of meat and offal has been condemned, it really represents a very small percentage of the total weight slaughtered. We are indeed fortunate in that the majority of cattle received from the Collecting Centres consist of young heifers and bullocks and most of the total carcases condemned were "casualties" sent in, in an attempt to literally "save their lives".

The total number of animals slaughtered was 9,902 which shows a slight decrease on 1942. A total of 543 visits were made to the Slaughter-house during the year.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year 1943 are set below for your perusal :-

TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.

MONTH	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total
JANUARY	40	8		1213	8	1,269
FEBRUARY	73	12		1000	11	1,096
MARCH	96	7		800		903
APRIL	139			764		903
MAY	160	18		751		929
JUNE	141	9	1	142	2	295
JULY	161	8			1	170
AUGUST	151	13				164
SEPTEMBER	229	8	2	135	2	376
OCTOBER	151	4		519		674
NOVEMBER	127	3	2	1383		1,515
DECEMBER	101	13		1494		1,608
Totals	1,569	103	5	8,201	24	9,902

	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS.	COWS	CALVES.	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS.
Number slaughtered	1,569	103	5	8,201	26
Number inspected	1,569	103	5	8,201	24
ALL DISEASE EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	6	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	96	15	-	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	6.1%	14.6%	-	.09%	-
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	6	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	88	30	-	-	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.7%	34%	-	-	16%

In addition to the animals slaughtered in the Government Slaughter-house, 98 pigs were slaughtered in various parts of the District by small-holders and cottagers for the purpose of providing bacon for their own consumption.

They were all inspected before being used for human consumption.

As a result of the inspections at the Government Slaughter-house, various diseased or unsound conditions were discovered, as detailed in the following tables.

The amount of Tuberculosis is dealt with in Table 1. and other diseased conditions in Table 2.

TABLE 1. TUBERCULOSIS IN FOOD ANIMALS.

PORTION DEALT WITH	In Bovines.		In Pigs.	
	Number Condemned.	Weight.	Number Condemned.	Weight.
MEAT. -----				
Entire Carcase and all organs	7.	217½ St.	-	-
Briskets	10.	11¾ "	-	-
Skirts	4.	1½ "	-	-
Udders	6.	6 "	-	-
Total weight of meat		236¾ St.	-	-
OFFALS. -----				
Heads	64	137 St.	1	1 St.
Sets of lungs	129	83 St.	2	¼ "
Livers	37	37 St.	2	½ "
Kidneys	2	½ St	-	-
Mesentery	1	2 St.	1	-
Stomach	2	6 St.	1	¼ St.
Intestines	2	2 St.	1	¼ "
		267½ St.		2¼ St.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trade carried on in the district is that of tripe boiling.

The premises in which this trade is performed are the property of Ryhope and Silksworth Industrial Provident Society and attached to the Government Slaughter-house. The premises are inspected regularly.

TABLE 2. OTHER DISEASED OR UNSOUND CONDITIONS IN FOOD ANIMALS.

Diseased or unsound conditions.	MEAT CONDEMNED.			EDIBLE OFFALS CONDEMNED					
	No. of total carcasses.	Parts of Car-cases.	Wt.	Heads	Sets of Lungs	Livers	Half-Livers	Kidneys	Stomachs and Intestines.
<u>IN CATTLE</u>									
Abscesses						37			1.
Inflammation									1.
Mastitis		Udders 6	6 st.						
Flukes						3	46		
Cirrhosis						11			
Pleurisy					2				
Angioma						8			
Bruising		Portion of Beef	6 st.						
Bone Taint		2 Hind-quarters	13½ "						
Peritonitis						2			1.
Total weight of Beef and No. of Offals.			25½ St.		2	61	46	-	3
<u>IN SHEEP AND LAMBS</u>									
Moribund	4								
Pneumonia (acute)	1								
Abscesses		1 Fore-quarter	2½ St.						
Total weight of Mutton.			2½ St.						
<u>In Pigs.</u>									
Mastitis		Udders 2	2½ St.						
Total weight of Pork			2½ St.						

Total weight of meat and offals condemned on account of Tuberculosis and other diseased or unsound conditions :-

Beef	292 $\frac{1}{4}$ Stones	Beef Offals	357 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones
Mutton	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Mutton	"
Pork	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Pork	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
-----		-----	
297 $\frac{1}{4}$ Stones		359 $\frac{3}{4}$ Stones	
=====		=====	

TOTAL WEIGHT MEAT AND OFFALS CONDEMNED = 657 Stones

(4 Tons, 2 Cwts, 14 lbs)

THE FOLLOWING PRESERVED FOODSTUFFS WERE ALSO FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION :-

209	6 lb. Tins	Corned Beef	101	Tins	Chopped Ham
263	12 ozs	" " "	27	"	Luncheon Meat
61	"	Evaporated Milk	11	"	Salmon
20	"	Condensed Milk	14	"	Tomatoes
9	"	Beef Loaf	1	Tin	Apples
7	"	Peas	5	Tins	Pilchards
14	"	Sausage Meat	7	"	Soup
4	"	Jam	2	"	Carrots
23	"	Baked Beans	8	"	Plums
3	"	Galantine Roll	2	"	Casserole
2	"	Peaches	1	Tin	Stewed Steak
1	Tin	Prunes	1	"	Brisket
1	"	Syrup	1	"	Tang
1	"	Sardines	4	Tins	Tongue
1	"	Grapefruit	2	"	Prepared Meal
3	Jars	Pickled Beetroot	1 lb	Sugar	
7 $\frac{3}{4}$	lbs.	Margarine	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	lbs.	Butter
5	lbs	Raisins	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	lb	Bacon
46	lbs	Sausage	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs	Apple Rings
2 Tins Steak and Vegetable					

M.B.H. CHURCHILL

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

